GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6022
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2001
LEGISLATION TO CHECK DEFECTION
CHANDRA NATH SINGH

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring fresh legislation to check the rising trend of defection from the political parties in order to avoid elections at the short intervals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (d) Certain proposals relating to amendments to the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution (anti-defection law) were included in the agenda for the meeting of political parties on the subject of reform of electoral laws held on 22.5.1998 but the discussion on the issue was deferred. The Government, however, intends to discuss the issue with the political parties at the appropriate time as part of the process of reform of electoral laws. The process of reform of electoral laws is, however, a continuous and ongoing process and can be carried out only through consensus among political parties, which is a time consuming process and, therefore, no time frame can be suggested in this regard. The Government, however, intends to continue interaction with the political parties on various proposals to carry forward the process of electoral reforms, which include changes in the anti-defection law.